# Mr. Harding Addresses Econ Group

Utah's biggest employment problem is seasonality, members of the Utah Workshop on Economic Education were told Thursday by Curtis P. Harding, State Administrator of Employment Security.

So much of Utah's employment is geared with the seasons, Mr. Harding said, that it constitutes a real economic problem for most Utahns. Utah is probably one of the most seasonal states in the nation, he declared.

Mr. Harding pointed out that while Utah's population has been experiencing a steady increase in the last ten years, the bulk of the increase has been in areas where industry is located. Many of the counties in Utah, he said, are still experiencing decreases in population.

Because Utah's employment is tied so closely to federal projects, the state may be faced with some employment problems in the future. Serious declines in employment could be averted, Mr. Harding said, with a more balanced economy growing out of a more diversified employment.

The speaker also pointed out that Utah was ideally located in a strategic area for market traffic, thus insuring the state a healthy share of transportation and storage business.

One of the major employment problems facing officials is an increasing number of high school graduates. The largest number of graduates is expected to hit the labor market a few years hence, and economists fear Utah will not be able to handle the influx.

Mr. Harding called Salt Lake County "the healthiest spot in the state for employment" today at the present time. Employment has been in a steady climb in that county as he said.

Members of the workshop, most of them educators, were of their responsibility of properly training their students for sound occupations. There is, he pointed out, an ever-shifting resistance on the part of industry to hire young high school graduates.

This reluctance is attributed to the fact that most of today's youth have been raised in an era of "lush living" that has left them with indifferent attitudes towards work.

Dr. Edwin G. Nourse, one of the top economists in the nation, also addressed the workshop during their first week of meetings.

The workshop is being held in Knight Hall, and is sponsored by BYU in conjunction with the State Board of Education.


# BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSE

PUBLISHED BY ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY

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# Summer Commencement Friday; Homer Mark Nelson Valedictorian

Homer Mark Nelson, a physics major from Morgan, will deliver the valedictory address at Brigham Young University's 78th Summer Commencement, Aug. 21, according to Ariel S. Ballif, dean of the summer school.

Homer M. Nelson is graduating from BYU with a grade point average of 2.93 for his entire college career. He completed his graduation requirements after only three years of residence, including three summer sessions at BYU.

The 20-year-old senior is the son of Andy H. and Mary R. Nelson of Morgan. He graduated from Morgan High School in 1950 and immediately enrolled at BYU.

Here he was chosen a member of Sigma Pi Sigma, honorary physics society, and also holds the office of Priest in the Milton Ward, Morgan Stake.

Brigham Young University's 78th Summer Commencement will be held in the Joseph Smith auditorium, August 21. There are 150 receiving Bachelor's degrees and 26 receiving Master's degrees.

Candidates for the degrees are:

**Master of Arts**

Marvin Dale Colby, Walla Walla, Wash.; Vernon Cesselius Hess, Ogden; Gordon Hastings Ottesen, Orange, Calif.; Willard K. Law, Valley City, N. Dak.; Ralph Vernon Chamberlain, Provo; Dr. Hyrum Vern Allen, Provo; Amanita Albert Charles Todd, Jr., Salt Lake City; Rodney Turner, New York City; E. Wayne Wright, San Francisco, Calif.

**Master of Science**

Fred Clark Alland, Ogden; K. Laverne Marcum, Driggs, Ida.; Walter M. Senn, Ashland, American Fork; J. Leslie Sollins, Lyman, Wyo.

**Master of Science**

Marvin Dale Colby, Walla Walla, Wash.; Vernon Cesselius Hess, Ogden; Gordon Hastings Ottesen, Orange, Calif.; Willard K. Law, Valley City, N. Dak.; Ralph Vernon Chamberlain, Provo; Dr. Hyrum Vern Allen, Provo; Amanita Albert Charles Todd, Jr., Salt Lake City; Rodney Turner, New York City; E. Wayne Wright, San Francisco, Calif.

**Master of Science**

Fred Clark Alland, Ogden; K. Laverne Marcum, Driggs, Ida.; Walter M. Senn, Ashland, American Fork; J. Leslie Sollins, Lyman, Wyo.

**Master of Science**

Arizona Betty Farnsworth, Chandler; Merlyn J. Adair, Mesa; Margaret Elaine Bowcutt, Phoenix; Clifford A. Swan, Tempe; Mary Louise Anderson, Snowflake; Georgia B. Stevens, Snowflake.

California Joseph Dean Jones, Bell; Peter Hughes, Marcus Lucher Sigmon, El Cajon; Ralph Lee Hamblin, Downey; Dorothy Jane Pond, Ripon; Glendale: Merlyn Palmer, Monterey Park; Lawrence Earl Stone, Oakland; Ruth Ann Hansen, San Diego; Marilyn Loey McFarland, San Gabriel.

Colorado Jacqueline L. Rose, Cortez; Lahrel Harrison Olsen, Manassa; Helen Eliza Martin, Salida.

Idaho James R Allen, Jr, Selma Shaw, Burley; Alma Rene Soderquist, Idaho Falls; Lorraine Ann Bodily, Rexburg; Myrna Ann Christensen, Rexburg; Leonard LaVarin Giles, Pocatello; Gay Cole, Ashton; Virgil Emerson Rowland, Aberdeen; Bauer, Rigby; Cyrus Ruth Anderson Gibson, Rexburg.

Illinois Willard Russell Cooper, Glenview; Michigan Luther O Dew, Northville; Minnesota Hal Curtis Rowland, Albert Lea; Nevada George Leonard Williams, Winnemucca.

New Jersey H Wayne Miller, Elmwood Park; New York Ronald William Schultz, Rochester.

Oregon Joseph F. Rowell, Baker; Jacob Hamblin Bowman, Portland; Ralph Lee Hamblin, Gresham; Grant, Wilson, Beaver.

Utah Walter Robert Brock, Kenneth Archer Taylor, American Fork; Bonnie Nelson Wright, Orem; Everett Norman Nelson White, Cedar City; Ronald Lee Dastrup, Lehi; Rae Marie Erickson, Hildale; Gordon Perrin, George A Morton, Jr., Donald Lee Hansen, Spanish Fork; Ralph Eugene Bingham, Springville; Ruth Lowell Dutson, Leamington; Kenneth Lowell Hansen, Levan; Marilyn Hansen Woodland; Max Abe Day, Moab; Homer Mark Nelson, Morgan; Lorin Ray Hansen, Fillmore; Samuel Gordon Bunnell, Grantsville; Joseph Wentz; Angood Calvin Robison, Ogden; Ralph Lee Hamblin, Ogden; Hayden David Layton Robins, Keith Riffin Shand, Bountiful; Lorraine Ann Bodily, Rexburg; Ralph Vernon Chamberlain, Provo; W. Hugh Chamberlain, Centerville; Marilyn Ann Hansen, Woodland; Amanita Albert Charles Todd, Jr., Salt Lake City; Ralph Eugene Bingham, Springville; Rafaela Lee West, Pleasant Grove; Vernon A. Nielson, Provo; Ralph Lee Hamblin, Ogden; Reed Beesley, Smithfield; Gaynor MacRold, Donald F. Mitchell, Provo; Ralph Lee Hamblin, Ogden; Ralph Lee Hamblin, Ogden; Ralph Lee Hamblin, Ogden; Jenny Joseph Wentz; Veda Coe Jensen, Provo; Ralph Lee Hamblin, Ogden; Ralph Lee Hamblin, Ogden; Richard Frank Bird Wallace Thompson Smith, Provo; Ralph Lee Hamblin, Ogden; Ralph Lee Hamblin, Ogden; Quentin Riggs, Sandyville; Paul Dwayne Hansen, Provo; Ralph Lee Hamblin, Ogden; Ralph Lee Hamblin, Ogden; Bonnie Sear-bell, Marie Rommel Beesley, Smithfield; Ralph Lee Hamblin, Ogden; Ralph Lee Hamblin, Ogden; Walter B. Fullerton, Orem; D Lamoreaux, Provo; Ralph Lee Hamblin, Ogden; Ralph Lee Hamblin, Ogden; Ralph Lee Hamblin, Ogden

LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS by Bibler

"Oh, she has a pretty mouth all right, Worthal—It's just that most freshman girls are a little bashful on blind dates."

## the Safety valve

BY THE READERS

## Just A Few Suggestions

Dear Editor:

I would like to take this last opportunity to make the following suggestions, not in the spirit of criticism, but rather in helpfulness.

The campus marker on University Avenue and 8th North could be improved if the old rusty pipe holding the name plaque were painted blue.

The cement wall and steps at the bottom of the hill at 2nd East and 8th North could stand some refinishing.

The BYU Geology truck could use a new gas cap to replace the sticks and cloths now being used.

The wall in the balcony of the Maeser building could use a little retouching where the paint has soughed off the north wall.

The steps leading to the men's lavatories in the basement of the Joseph Smith building and the Library could use a coat of paint.

The large lawn in front of the Science building would be an ideal place to locate a large "Y" shaped flower bed filled with blue and white flowers.

These items may be small and singularly insignificant, but collectively they could make a difference.

T. Keith Midgley

## PGP Lecture Series Begins At LDS Business College

The first in a series of lectures on The Pearl of Great Price will be given Wednesday night in Barratt Hall in Salt Lake City by James R. Clark of the BYU religion faculty. Mr. Clark is the second of five lecturers in the current "Know Your Religion" program sponsored by BYU and the LDS Business College Branch.

Mr. Clark's first lecture, "New Light on the Chandler Story of the Papyrus of Abraham," will be delivered at 8 p.m. in Barratt Hall, on the campus of the LDS Business College. This Wednesday night series will continue through September 9.

During this time he will cover material on the discovery and translation of some of the ancient records contained in The Pearl of Great Price.

Subsequent lecture series will be given by W. Cleon Skousen, William E. Berrett, and Dr. Sidney B. Sperry, all members of administrative staff or faculty at Brigham Young University.

Tickets for one set of five lectures sell for $1, and admission to a single lecture will be 30 cents. Each lecture will be followed by a question and answer period.

## Holman Awarded Scholarship

Bob Holman, Iona, Ida., studentbody vice president at Brigham Young University during 1952-53, has been awarded a graduate scholarship for study at Northwestern University.

Mr. Holman graduated from BYU in June with a major in radio journalism and for the past two months has been working for station KID, Idaho Falls.

## CLASSIFIEDS

ROBERT Mendez will personally inspect shoes at Ferrage's Spot Shoe Tuesday Aug. 25, and Sat. 29

## Cougars Slate 10 Grid Tilts

Drawing up one of the most ambitious football schedules in recent years, Brigham Young University completed its 1953 grid calendar recently with the addition of the University of Idaho.

The game with the Idaho Vandals now gives the Cougars a full 10 game slate that will keep the Atkinson crew busy every weekend from September 10 to Thanksgiving Day finale with the University of Utah.

Officials at BYU said the Cougar-Vandal tilt has been set for the afternoon of October 10 in Boise, Idaho. It will be the Cats' first grid tilt in the Gem State capitol, and will initiate a home-and-home series with the Vandal grid teams even though the first game is on a neutral site.

Coach Charles "Chick" Atkinson, a former Idaho athletic great, will now guide his charges through one of the toughest grid slates in the school's history. The Cougars will face three non-conference opponents in Idaho, San Jose State, and Arizona State at Tempe. Besides this the Cats will face seven Skyline teams during the course of the season.

With much of his veteran talent lost through graduation, Atkinson is already wrestling with the problem of getting a formidable unit together for this year's grid play. Only one-third of last year's lettermen will be returning.

The Cougars will open the '53 season with a September 19 home stand against Montana University.

**Football Schedule**

Sept. 19—Montana at Provo.
Sept. 25—San Jose State at Provo.
October 3—New Mexico at Albuquerque.
October 10—University of Idaho at Boise, Idaho.
Oct. 16—Utah State at Provo.
October 23—Denver University at Denver.
October 21 University of Wyoming at Laramie.
November 7—Colorado A&M (Homecoming) at Provo.
November 26—University of Utah at Salt Lake City.

## Officers Assigned

Three officers assigned to the AFROTC detachment at Brigham Young University departed this week for air science workshops at universities in California and New Mexico. They will take concentrated courses covering a three-week period. Purpose of these workshops is to acquaint AFROTC instructors with new textbooks and methods of presenting the subject matter during the coming school year.

Representing BYU in the workshops will be Lt. Col. Samuel J. Skousen, Major Paul A. Simmons, and Major Jay J. Taylor. Col. Skousen will attend the workshop at the University of New Mexico at Albuquerque. Major Taylor will attend a special section at Loyola University at Los Angeles, and Major Simmons will be part of the faculty conducting a section at University of Southern California at Los Angeles.

**Brigham Young UNIVERSE**

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## POETRY AWARD WINNERS

The following poems were the winners of the first annual Hart-Larson Poetry Competition, and are printed in the UNIVERSE courtesy of the authors and the contest sponsors.

*FIRST PLACE. . .*

### DUET FOR A STILL EVENING

Two men, hard belly-flat milk-fed,
Sat quietly at either side of the squat desk
Walnut centered beneath the fluorescent tubes
Speaking softly of what another had said
Of Picasso's erratic owls and cubes.

Two souls, lost under-wise within,
Carefully fought to pass beyond the planing walls
Rough darkened on the mounting years—
Extracting meanings from the roots of sin,
The stalk of life, and leafy fears.

Two poles, thought essence-wild darkling
Burn and toss in the overpowering waves—
Bottomless green salt black storm—
Await understanding and knowing and being
Set into thought as Picasso has form.

—Richard L. Pope

*SECOND PLACE. . .*

### TO DO AGAIN

And were it to do again?
gutters clogged
unsanitary
mirrors chipped
distorting
to do again?
with icicles prodding
virgin snow
And yet
water gushed briskly
at times
sun glints on
broken glass
to do again. . .
Ice has a clean
feel even when
broken.

—Barbara Romney

*THIRD PLACE. . .*

### URBANE

January air sweeps
about the street
placing last season's leaves
on top of one another
then replacing them.
Crossing dust blown sidewalks
on which we meet
We look at the ground to keep
out the sand
Or wait.
I in a doorway
and you stand
with your back opposite mine
Reading the *Telegram*.
The street car draws near
—always on time
I see my watch
You drop in any dime
breathing close quarters air
and,
adjusting a slip strap
before
stepping
off
for
a mauve
apartment
and
coffee
(in beige porcelain).
I walk past
a row of 27 restaurants
where dark clothed people
put questions
in conversations
and polite suggestions
to
one another
in turn
As they munch dinner taffy
Supping
(sedately).
brown
brown
coffee.

—Don Rice

# Siamese Holiday

**Last of a series by Olive Kimball Burningham**

## Strange Customs

In this country so far away from the United States, we found many unusual, different, and fascinating customs.

**Loy Katong**

A very lovely tradition in which these Siamese Buddhists believed was the beautiful Loy Katong ceremony which ended the rainy season. In Thailand it rained from the first of May to the first of November; it dripped, it sprinkled, it poured, and it leached typhoon velocity toward the end of the rains. The rivers and klongs were full of water and even overflowed their banks in many places. Right up to November 1, a great storm shook the banana trees and poured down upon the roofs of the houses and upon the heads of the people. Then suddenly, on November 2, there was no rain. It was the time of season for the Loy Katong ceremony, and the rains stopped.

Many beautiful little boats were made for this occasion. These lovely little boats, many made to look like baskets, were made from fresh flowers. The sacred lotus bloom was the most frequently used flower, and these little crafts, filled with sacred candles, joss sticks, and sometimes money and smaller flowers, were delicate and beautiful in their coloring and forms. In the evening, the people would gather along the banks of the rivers and the klongs, or they would get into the sampans or other boats and row out into the deeper water. From the edge of the water or from their boats, the people would then light the candles in the little flower boats, place other trifles on them, and launch these gay little offerings on the water so that they would float away carrying a tribute and thanks to Lord Buddha and the water gods.

The bobbing lights from the many candles in the boats looked like dancing fireflies on the surface of the water, and the reflections from the moon and from the lights on shore made the water shimmer and gleam. The evening wore away into the night and the people became more happy and full of fun. Many would form groups and the folk dancing along the water's edge, much making would be consumed, and everyone would show off brightly illuminated fireworks.

**The Spirit House**

Every Siamese family has a Spirit House located in the front of the compound. When the home owner builds a house, he also has made a Spirit House, a small structure usually about a foot or a foot and a half wide and perhaps a foot and a half to two feet high and made to look like a little temple or a house with a wedge roof. This Spirit House is placed on the top of a pedestal about six feet high. A Brahmin priest is then called to come and perform a ceremony in which he calls upon one of the home owner's ancestors to come and dwell in the little Spirit House and protect and watch over the people in the big house and compound. A small plaque, about one and one-half by three inches, with a picture on it is bas-relief of the supposed ancestor is then placed inside the Spirit House. Any servants, a man and a woman, each about five inches about one and one-half inches tall is then placed on each side of the plaque so they can render service to the spirit whenever he desires it. Two small figures, one of a horse and one of an elephant are also put into the Spirit House so that the spirit can take a ride whenever he desires. Each morning the house owner would bring food to the spirit and during the week he would keep fresh flowers and often garlands of flowers and ribbons on the front of the little Spirit House.

**Telling Fortunes**

The Siamese are a superstitious people. Each time as we visited the various temples and stupas in Siam, we saw people prostrating themselves before the great statue of Lord Buddha that dominated the temple, and they would also offer the flowers, joss sticks, and gold leaf which they had purchased earlier from a vendor. After due homage, consideration, and tribute had been shown to Buddha, most of the people would have their fortunes told. Kneeling in front of the Buddha, each person would take his turn holding in his hands a tubular box which contained a great many sticks of particular fortune. My Siamese friends explained that if I were to accumulate my fortunes, and they would be pleased if my fortune was accumulated, I would be very sad and unhappy for me if my fortune was indicate good luck. The Siamese put a high value on the importance of these fortunes, and each time that their fortunes told their spirits would become high and they were happy. If their fortune were good, but if their fortunes were sad, misfortune or unlucky, their spirits were very dejected and they talked and pondered over the matter, trying to overcome the misfortune.

**Gods of Conveyances**

Many boats, sampans and motor cars had gay bunches of ribbons, flowers of orchids, or garlands of flowers fastened to the hood or to the backs of the conveyances. These garlands and bunches of flowers were put on the vehicles to be made in and supplication to the Siamese gods who controlled conveyances. They acted as a kind of prayer to the god in which the driver of the conveyance would ask for protection and help for his vehicle and for the people for whom it was his duty to furnish transportation. He didn't want his vehicle to come to his bus, nor did he want an accident that would harm the people.

**The Scarcity of Paper**

Paper was very scarce in Siam. The paper used for newspapers and magazines was of poor quality, but after reading the material in the paper was not thrown away. Instead it was sometimes made into bags or used in the wrapping of food or bought up purchases. A fiber string was used to secure the bundle and a portion of the string was left in a loop in order to carry it more easily. Frequently no paper was used, but when some vegetables or fruits were purchased, the fiber string was secured around the unwrapped produce so that a loop was left which made it possible to carry several bunches quite simply. A great portion of perishable foods and flowers were carried in large, moisture-proof banana leaves that were folded neatly around the product and sometimes secured with a piece of fiber or else with little toothpick like sticks. Sometimes a tiny strip of leaf was made into a handle, and the package, when neatly and attractively fixed up looked like little baskets.

**Honoring the Mid-Year**

The middle of September was the mid-year for the Thai people in commemoration of the middle year, the people make a sticky concoction of rice, peanuts, and sesame seeds covered with boiled browned sugar that tasted much like our Cracker Jack. Big pans filled with this mixture were sold in the markets at the time of year, and one could buy this sweet for five baht per kilo. It could be pressed into a pan and put into the refrigerator where it would turn hard and then could be broken into squares. Part of the custom was to eat this concoction with bananas. The making and eating of this food lasted only about two weeks during the middle of September.

**The Markets**

A great portion of Bangkok was devoted to market sections. In the morning these places were filled with the people. Many of our markets along the streets were very dirty: mud, puddles of water, garbage, and dirty fish and vegetables were all scattered about. Many kinds of baskets were scattered about and were filled with a variety of products: many kinds of bananas, several varieties of onions; all sizes of fish; chickens; and in fact, once you large inch fish, strange, large whitish sweet potatoes; many kinds of leafy vegetables. Stacks of cocoanuts, piles of pomelo (similar to our grapefruit), neatly piled stacks of fresh banana leaves used for wrapping much of the produce that is sold; layer upon layer of long sugar cane stalks were all in these markets. Sometimes the markets were close to a klong, and then the sampans and canoes and dugouts would be crowd and jam together in order for the boatman to sell his produce. Many of the boats were filled with coconuts, others with green oranges that were ripe; still others with bananas, while other boats contained a combination of produce. The vendor-peddler, usually a woman, was seated in the middle of her boat surrounded by her stuff or on one end of it. She shouted to the people to come and buy; or else she sat passively waiting for someone to come. She was sometimes ill dressed in her drab, unattractive, shapeless skirt and usual unattractive tight black waist like her black mass of hair was usually perched her large Siamese hat that looked exactly like an American lampshade.

Trips through the markets were both interesting, exciting, and educational, for one had to look out for many miscellaneous things while buying. He had to look out for piles of slippery leaves from discarded vegetables, sprawling or loitering dogs, mud puddles, uneven walks, naked children and half-dressed adults, and baskets of all sizes and varieties filled with some known things and many more unknown things. Clamor and noise, muck and mire were everywhere.

Aside from the food, everything else was also sold at the markets to a great extent and degree, depending upon the size of the market. Many things were laid out on the ground. Others lines on a plastic cloth and sometimes on some other kind of cover. Stalls, subbyholes, shelters, and just space was given over to meat, fish, vegetables, cloth, jewelry, canned goods and boxed products from England or America usually), dishes, pots and pans, baskets, fish nets, traps, medicine, notions, and trinket sections; in fact, once you large inch fish, strange, large whitish sweet potatoes; many kinds of leafy vegetables. Stacks of cocoanuts, piles of pomelo (similar to our grapefruit), neatly piled stacks of fresh banana leaves used for wrapping much of the produce that is sold; layer upon layer of long sugar cane stalks were all in these markets. Sometimes the markets were close to a klong, and then the sampans and canoes and dugouts would be crowd and jam together in order for the boatman to sell his produce. Many of the boats were filled with coconuts, others with green oranges that were ripe; still others with bananas, while other boats contained a combination of produce. The vendor-peddler, usually a woman, was seated in the middle of her boat surrounded by her stuff or on one end of it. She shouted to the people to come and buy; or else she sat passively waiting for someone to come. She was sometimes ill dressed in her drab, unattractive, shapeless skirt and usual unattractive tight black waist like her black mass of hair was usually perched her large Siamese hat that looked exactly


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# Organ Master, J. J. Keeler To Give Assembly Concert

"The man who can make the organ talk," Joseph J. Keeler, will give an organ recital on the assembly program August 20 at 9:45 a.m. This is to be the last assembly program for the summer session.

Mr. Keeler has been serving as University Organist and instructor in piano and organ on the Brigham Young University faculty since he came to the Y as a young man in 1935. He received his B.S. from BYU in 1940 and his M.A. in 1950.

He was a student of the great masters Karl Straube and Robert Teichmuller at the Leipsic Conservatory in Germany during the year 1931-32. He also studied at the Royal College of Music in London in 1933.

Mr. Keeler will be assisted by Warren Kirk. The recital program, subject to some possible changes, will be as follows: "Passacaglia" by West. "Ave Maria" by Bossi. Prelude in Hymn Tune, "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent" by Mr. Keeler.

Mr. Kirk will sing "O Lord Most Holy" by Franck; and "Come Sweet Death" by Bach.

The program will continue with "Organ Prelude in F" by Bach; "Prayer" by Dubois; and will conclude with "Toccota" by Boellmann.


Scera

PLAYS ALL WEEK
Regular Admission

WHITE WITCH DOCTOR
TECHNICOLOR
Susan HAYWARD
Robert MITCHUM

LITTLE KNOWN FACTS ABOUT
DIAMONDS

In the sixth century there was a very good reason behind a man giving his betrothed "a ring, a kiss, and a pair of shoes." The ring was to keep her hands out of mischief, the shoes to prevent her from being footloose and the kiss, to cure her of talking too much. Today, of course, the ring and the kiss suffice.

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DIAMONDS
IF YOU DON'T KNOW DIAMONDS—KNOW YOUR JEWELER

*Dream Fulfilled . . .*

# South African Converted; Comes to U.S. and B.Y.U.

by John G. Meyer

**(Editor's Note: As is the case with many foreign students, the writer of this story is the first member of his family to join the Church. It is quite a coincidence that his first ancestor to go to South Africa went three hundred years ago for religious freedom. Now, John has left South Africa, the first immigrant from his family in all that time, also for his religion.)**

Ever since I can remember it had been my desire to come to America for the purpose of being on the stage—America just seemed a dream country to me.

As things usually turn out, I did not come as an actor—although I may appear to be acting at times—but I came for the benefit of being in this land and at the Brigham Young University to partake of the fine spirit which I have found to certainly be worthy of its great name—Brigham Young.

I owe my being here in this great land of liberty and opportunity to the fine missionary system of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and to my very dear and honorable mother who will join me in this wonderful land this fall. Before I go any further, I would like to tell how I became a member of the only true Church upon the face of the earth.

It was in July, 1949, at the age of twenty-one, after the death of my very dear father, that I left my birthplace Pretoria, for the first time in my life to live at the coastal town Durban, by way of a change.

I was in Durban for about three weeks, when I received a letter from one of my father's cousins telling me to remember the good name that my father had left me, never to disgrace it and bring shame to my mother. She also mentioned that owing to the fact the world was so full and full of temptation, it would n't hurt me to go to church at least once on a Sunday; meaning the Dutch Reformed Church, of course, as there was the thought that I was christened in as a baby).

**Religious Quandary**

I had, however, for the past few years been going to the Dutch Reformed Church, of which my father was a member, the Church of England of which my mother is a member, and the Methodist which I myself at times preferred, but I had come to a point in my life where I felt that I was not being benefitted by attending any one of these particular churches, as what they were preaching seemed quite meaningless to me. At the time of receiving the letter, I had not been to any church for two years owing to the reason mentioned above. This made me feel very guilty in that I had neglected God, even though during this time I had never failed to pray each night.

The night of receiving the letter, I prayed to God to be lead to some church or organization that would show me a true pattern of life, with some hope for the future. I told God that He knew I did not desire to be affiliated with any of the churches I had been attending, but wished for a way in which I could serve Him in truth.

When I arose from my knees, I felt very happy, and that a load had been lifted from my shoulders, as I had truly for the first time that I can recall, spoken to my God as one man speaketh to another.

It was only a matter of days before a friend of mine where I was working, knowing of my love for dancing, and about the fact that I had danced and sung in previous musical shows, asked me if I would like to be in a show which she knew needed dancers. I at once went down to see the producer, whom she contacted on my behalf, and got into the show, which I did not know at the time was being sponsored by the Durban Branch of the Church to raise funds for a chapel.

JOHN MEYER
. . . S. Africa convert

During one of the numbers, at one of the rehearsals which I was not in, Milan Q. (Buddy) Feit came and sat next to me as he was not playing the piano for this number—he, incidentally, was the musical director.

We began talking and I asked him where he was from, and he said, "Salt Lake City." This was like music in my ears, as there were always two places in my mind when I thought of America, and they were Salt Lake City and Sun Valley. When I asked him what he was here for, he told me he was a missionary for the Mormons. As I had never heard of the Mormons before, I did not catch the name, but left it at that, as I did not want to show my ignorance.

After two days of worrying, I decided to ask Buddy what he had said he was a missionary for and this time he said, "For the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints." I then asked him about their belief in the Godhead, and when he told me, I said, "That is what the Church of England and I believe." And when he told me the Church of England believed in the Three-In-One theory, I told him I no longer believed the Church of England. He went on to tell me about the Book of Mormon, and I told him a person was never too old to learn and that if modern social science proved that tea, coffee, alcohol and tobacco were bad for the body, then I would no longer partake of any of them. Lastly he told me that there was a living Prophet at the head of the Church to guide and direct it as in the days of old, and to me this was the most wonderful thought.

I asked him if I could attend a meeting, and he said I would be very welcome. The first Sunday that came along, I was at the place of meeting about an hour before it began, and by the time I arrived, I was greeted in the most friendly way. Shortly the meeting commenced and the first song they sang was "Joseph Smith's First Prayer," and when it was over, I was convinced that it was the true Church, and I wanted to be baptized. I knew that Joseph Smith was a prophet, and with this knowledge, I accepted without reading, the standard works of the Church, as they came from the Prophet of God.

Less than three months later, I entered the waters of baptism —I had found the new way of life I had prayed for. When I stated, "Knock and it shall be opened unto you; seek and ye shall find," and again "If any man lack wisdom, let him ask of God who giveth to the Prophet liberally and upbraideth not, and it shall be given him." This truly was the case with me.

I sailed from South Africa with four returning missionaries in January, 1952, to wait in London for my immigration visa. I assisted the London Branch in genealogical work for about nine months, before I finally got my visa, and sailed for America on October 17, 1952. I arrived in New York after thirteen days at sea, nine of which I will never forget, as it was deathly seasick. The moment I landed on America's soil, I felt that this was the land that I was destined to come to—the friendliness was beyond measure, although I had found friendliness in other countries as well. When I got to Salt Lake City, it was a dream come true, and I cannot but think how fortunate the Saints in Utah and America are, to be living in the shadows of the Temples, and yet how lightly some of them take it.

The Church in South Africa is the same as it is in Utah, only, of course, very much smaller. There are also those in South Africa as in all parts of the world, who once embraced the gospel but no longer do so. They are, however, in the minority, but those who are valiant are truly wonderful people. They indeed would not only die for the Gospel, but live for it, and it is sometimes harder to live for something than to die for it.

South Africa has its problems also, which sometimes appear, according to the newspapers, to be much worse than they really are, but financially it is a very rich country and it produces practically every commodity one can think of. The wealth, however, lies in the rich sources of gold and diamonds. But diamonds are not found on the streets as a lot of people think. South Africans do not have slaves, as I have heard people say, but we do have Negro servants who are treated very kindly. In spite of the Negro labor, the people, both men and women, are very hard working and although not every family has its own home, a lot do; and most of them have automobiles and the necessities just go to make a home comfortable.

The education system in America is not as difficult as in South Africa, as we have the European system hence I prefer the American system.

As far as religion is concerned, the people of South Africa on a whole are very religiously inclined, as they are mostly descended from the Dutch, German, and French who fled to South Africa for religious freedom, and have thus given a good religious background to South Africa.

America and South Africa are not very different in their ways of life. The only real differences that I can notice are the fact that we drive on the opposite side of the road, use pounds, shillings and pence instead of dollars for money, and don't have any movies or organized sport on Sunday.

To me America has always held all the important things of the world, but there is just one thing that the British have the upper hand in, and that is ballroom dancing. The Americans are very poor dancers, and I would like to see them lead in that as well.

America is now my home. I love it and I love the people. The above all I love the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Brigham Young University, and my dear mother who made it possible for my life-long dream to be realized.

# Sunset Hike Final LDS Party

The final Lambda Delta Sigma-sponsored party of the summer will be a sunset hike to the Y tomorrow night.

All student are invited to participate. The group will leave the Joseph Smith building at 6 p.m in order to arrive at the Y in time to see the sunset. After the trek down, a hamburger feed is planned for Timpanogos Park at Fifth West and Fifth North. Dress for the occasion is hiking clothes and there will be no admission charge. Rula Lindsay and Dorothy Bartels are co-chairmen of the party.

**Fall Quarter Schedules**

Class schedules for the fall quarter at BYU are now being compiled and will be available to students about Sept. 15, according to Orrin H. Jackson, Registrar's office.

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